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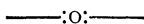
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It is well known that the larger game of the far West has been long diminishing in numbers. This is especially true of the bison, an animal which is unable to escape from its pursuers, and which can hardly be called a game animal. The once huge Southern herd has been reduced to a few individuals in Northwestern Texas. The Dakota herd numbers only some 75,000 head, a number which will soon be reduced to zero if the present rate of extermination continues. The Montana herd is now the object of relentless slaughter, and will soon follow the course of the other two herds. When scattered individuals represent these herds, a few hunters will one day pick them off, and the species will be extinct.

Let the Government place a small herd in each of the national parks, and let the number be maintained at a definite figure. Let the excess escape into the surrounding country, so as to preserve the species for the hunters. Let herds of moose, elk, big-horn, black and white-tailed deer, and antelope, be maintained in the same way. Let the Carnivora roam at will; and in a word protect nature from the destructive outlawry of men whose prehistoric instincts are not yet dead. Let the newer instinct of admiration for nature's wonders have scope. Let the desire for knowledge of nature's greatest mystery, life, have some opportunity. Let there be kept a source of supply for zoölogical societies and museums, so that science may ever have material for its investigations. By securing the preservation of these noblest of nature's works, Congress will be but extending the work it has so grandly sustained in the past, in the support of scientific research and the education of the people.

To carry this plan into effect it will be necessary to have an efficient corps of foresters and gamekeepers. Any poaching on the parks must be punished with exemplary severity by the United States courts.



RECENT LITERATURE.

THE ZOÖLOGICAL RECORD FOR 1882¹.—This volume is sixteen pages longer than its predecessor. The number of new genera and subgenera published in 1882 and recorded in the present volume is 1015, as against 1438 of Vol. XVIII. The editor adds that without the Protozoa, which in the latter comprised 483 from a

¹ *The Zoölogical Record for 1882*; being volume nineteenth of the Record of Zoölogical Literature. Edited by E. C. RYE. London, John Van Voorst, 1883.

single describer (Professor Haeckel), the number is greater by 70 in the present one. "These 1015 are divided as follows: Mammalia, 29; Aves, 19; Reptilia and Batrachia, 34; Pisces, 23; Mollusca and Molluscoida, 67; Crustacea, 46; Arachnida, 64; Myriopoda, 5; Insecta, 598; Vermes, 32; Echinodermata, 30; Cœlenterata, 27; Spongiida, 17; and Protozoa, 24. The unavoidable delay referred to in the preface has necessitated the publication of this long list of new names with scarcely any examination as regards prior occupation."

A number of changes have taken place in the staff of assistant editors, but we do not see that the quality of the reports has been lessened in value.

As regards Mammalia, the year 1882 did not differ materially from its predecessor in the large number of papers, anatomical, systematic and faunal, which appeared, though but few separate works of importance were published.

Of the ornithological publications of the year, special attention is called by the assistant editor, Mr. Sharpe, to the completion of Elliott's "Monograph of the Hornbills," Sclater's "Jacamars and Puff-birds," Salvadori's "Uccelli di Papuasias," and the atlas to the part "Aves" of the great work on the natural history of Madagascar, by MM. Milne-Edwards and Grandidier. Attention is also called to the valuable essays by Drs. Gadow and Krukenberg on the coloring of feathers. As usual the reports on insects fill nearly half the volume, *i. e.*, 292 pages.

As regards the value of this work to working naturalists, in this country especially, where few have access to large libraries, we can only repeat the statements heretofore made as to the usefulness of such a record as this. The report is subsidized, and, as a matter of course, endorsed by the British Association for the advancement of Science, as well as the Royal Society of London.

COLLINS'S MINERALOGY¹.—The system of classification adopted by the author is identical with that of Dana so far as the primary classes are concerned. The book is reprinted from the English edition, and like the first volume, published in 1878, was prepared for the use of "practical working miners, quarrymen and field geologists," as well as "students of the science classes in connection with the Department of Science and Art." The work, as the author says, is little more than a dictionary of minerals, which includes notices of all described up to the beginning of 1881.

The criticism we would make on this little unpretentious book, is that the class for which it is intended need full descriptions of the more common minerals and ores, their mode of occurrence and relations to one another, rather than a simple list with too brief descriptions of or reference to all that are known.

¹ *Putnam's Advanced Science Series. Mineralogy.* By J. H. COLLINS. Vol. II. Systematic and descriptive Mineralogy, with upwards of 400 illustrations. [1884.] 12mo., pp. 328.